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QUARTERLY MEETING, JANUARY, 1799.

At a meeting of the Massachusetts Historical Society, Jan. 29, 1799, — the members present were, J. Davis, D. Davis, Eliot, Fiske, J. Freeman, Holmes, Lincoln, Minot, Morse, Quincy, Spooner, Tudor, Turell, Webster, Williams, and Winthrop.

Mr. Crocker Sampson having applied for leave to take a copy of a letter addressed by Hon. Nathaniel Freeman, Jr., to the Recording Secretary, it was

Voted, That John Davis, Esq., inform Mr. Sampson that no such letter is on the files of the Society.

Voted, That the Standing Committee be increased by the addition of two members.

JAMES WINTHROP and PETER THACHER were chosen.

Voted, That the Collections for 1799 be published, not in four numbers, but in one volume.

Nominations: Rev. Jonathan Homer, of Newton, a Resident Member, by Dr. Eliot; His Excellency, Jonathan Trumbull, Governor of Connecticut, a Corresponding Member, by John Davis, Esq.

The following donations have been received since the meeting of Jan. 30, 1798: —

For the Collections: * —

Observations on the Indians of North America, by General Lincoln.

Letter respecting the Indians of Natick, by the Rev. Mr. Badger.

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* All these papers, "for the Collections," except the last two, are published in Vol. V. of the Collections. The letter of Colonel Revere is his celebrated account of the signal lanterns, and of his memorable ride to Lexington, on the evening of the 18th of April, 1775. In the month of October, 1878, a commemorative tablet of granite was placed in position on the front of the tower of Christ Church, bearing the following inscription: —

"The signal lanterns of Paul Revere, displayed in the steeple of this church, April 18, 1775, warned the country of the march of the British troops to Lexington and Concord." — EDS.

Letter respecting Transactions at the Commencement of the late War, by Colonel Revere.

Account of Virginia. Presented by Carter B. Harrison, Esq., of Virginia.

Letter from Charles II.'s Commissioners to Governor Prince, 1664; Articles of Agreement between the Court of New Plymouth and Awasuncks, 1671; Dartmouth Indians' Engagement, 1671; Letter from Awasuncks to Governor Prince, 1671; Original Letter of Governor Prince, 1671; and Judge Auchmuty's Proposals to the Ministry, 1744. Presented by William Winthrop, Esq.

Account of the several Settlements and Governments in Narraganset Bay, with a number of Papers relative to Rhode Island. Presented by Mr. Brinley.

Description and History of Newton, by Rev. Jonathan Homer.

Meteorological Journal at Halifax, Nova Scotia, by Joseph Peters, Esq.

Account of an Uncommon Storm of Hail and Thunder, five hundred miles in extent, Oct. 8, 1797, by Rev. Asahel Norton.

For the Library: —

Columbian Centinel, for 1798, from Major Russell.

Independent Chronicle, for 1798, from Mr. Thomas Adams.

Boston Gazette, for six months, 1798, from Mr. Benjamin Edes.

Herbert's Poems, 1634, from Henry Bromfield, Esq.

Three Pamphlets, from Mr. Fr. Ad. Vanderkemp.

State of the Controversy between New York and New Hampshire about the Grants, from Sir John Wentworth, Governor of Nova Scotia.

Forster's Northern Voyages; Edwards's West Indies, two volumes; Russell's Ancient Europe, two volumes; Russell's Modern Europe, five volumes; Du Pratz's Louisiana; Hewatt's Carolina, two volumes; Charlevoix's Journal; Lee's Memoirs; Gordon's History of the American War, three volumes; Jefferson's Notes on Virginia; Trumbull's History of Connecticut; and Loskiel's Moravian Missions in America. From Mr. Eben. Parsons.

Twelve valuable Pamphlets, among them the Election Sermons for 1704, 1705, 1709, and several of the preceding century, from Mr. Sawyer, of Newburyport.

Oration on the Fourth of July, by H. W. Desaussure, Esq., of Charleston, South Carolina. From the author.

Several valuable Pamphlets, from Dr. Jennison, of Cambridge.

Twenty-three numbers of the Boston Magazine, for 1784, &c.; six numbers of Gentlemen's and Ladies' Magazine, for 1784; several numbers of Royal American Magazine, for 1773 and 1774; and The Centinel, for 1794. From Rev. Mr. McKean, of Milton.

Election Sermons preached in Hartford, from 1790 to 1797; An Account of the Missions to the new Settlements; and Continuation of the same, with an Address of the Association on the subject of the Missions. From Rev. Mr. Eliot, of Fairfield.

Fourth volume of the Geography of America. From Professor Ebeling.

Andrews's History of the War with America, France, Spain, and Holland, from 1775 to 1783. Four volumes. From Dr. Dexter.

Belknap's History of New Hampshire, three volumes, and Memoirs of General Heath. From Judge Sullivan.

Monroe's Defence, from John Davis, Esq.

Holmes's Life of President Stiles; Williams's Captivity, fourth edition; Eliot's Indian Grammar; Edwards on the Language of the Muhhekaneew Indians; Oratio Inauguralis, Ezra Stiles, oratore; Christian Loyalty, a Sermon by Cotton Mather, 1727; Remonstrance of the Council of the State of Vermont against Resolutions of Congress, 1782; Stone's Election Sermon, 1720; Thayer's Election Sermon, 1725; Prince's Election Sermon, 1730; and a Catalogue of Books in the Library of Yale College. From Rev. Mr. Holmes.

Journal of the Proceedings against the Conspirators at New York, 1741, from Mr. Ziphion Thayer.

Bishop of Norwich's Sermon before the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, 1797, from Mr. David West.

History of the Canal Navigation in Pennsylvania; Narrative of the Sufferings of James Derkinderen, 1759; Constitution of Pennsylvania; Laws of Pennsylvania relative to the Poor, from 1700 to 1795; Health Laws of Pennsylvania, to 1798; Ordinances of the City of Philadelphia, to 1798; Report of the Committee on the subject of bringing Water to Philadelphia, 1798; and the Philadelphia Almanack, for 1799. From Mr. Z. Poulson, Jr., of Philadelphia.

Belknap's Biography, two volumes, from Josiah Quincy, Esq.

President's Message to Congress, April 3, 1798; Instructions to the Envoys to France; President's Message accompanying the same, June 5, 1798; and the President's Message, May 4, 1798. From Oliver Wolcott, Esq., Secretary of the Treasury.

Harris's Sermon on the Death of Mrs. Roads.

Mellen's Sermon on the Death of Mrs. Alden, from the author.

Trumbull's History of Connecticut, with a separate map and plates, from the author.

Observations on the Land Company instituted in Philadelphia, 1777, from Mr. T. Wallcut.

Orderly Books of the American Army, from Mr. Elisha Sigourney.

Cotton Mather's Memorable Providences relating to Witchcraft, and Cotton Mather's Johannes in Eremo, from Mr. Benjamin Larkin.

Kilborn Whitman's Oration before the Columbian Society at Bridgewater, from Rev. James Freeman.

Le Nord Littéraire, par Professeur Olivarius. Three numbers. From Professor Ebeling, of Hamburgh.

Collections for an Essay towards a Materia Medica of the United States, by Benjamin Smith Barton, M.D. From the author.

Dr. Morse's Thanksgiving Sermon, 1798, from the author.

Original Letter of Oliver Cromwell to Captain John Leverett, April 3, 1655, from Mr. Samuel Gridley.*

Proclamation by the President and Council of New England, 1686, from Ebenezer Storer, Esq.

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* Printed in 3 Collections, VII. 122. — Eds.

For the Cabinet: —

Portrait of John Wilson, first Minister of Boston, from Henry Bromfield, Esq.*

An Account and Drawing of a Petrified Fish, found near the Oneida Lake, from Mr. Fr. Ad. Vanderkemp.

A specimen of Burnt Corn, 1676, from Mr. Timothy Alden, Jr.

Portrait of John Wentworth, formerly Lieutenant-Governor of New Hampshire, from Sir John Wentworth, Governor of Nova Scotia.†

Specimens of Lava, Sulphur, Salts, and Petrifactions, from Naples and Gibraltar, from Captain Jonathan Young.

A large collection of Minerals, Fossils, and Petrifactions, from Jamaica, from Mr. Thomas Pemberton.

Half-crown of Charles II., Half-crown of Queen Anne, a Shilling of Oliver Cromwell, and a New England Shilling. From Mr. Sawyer, of Newburyport.

A Map of Connecticut, a Map of the Travels and Lodges of Charles I.'s Judges, a Print of President Stiles, and a specimen of Galena, found in Vermont, from Rev. Mr. Holmes.

A Map of New Jersey, and one of Maryland and Delaware, from Professor Ebeling, of Hamburgh.

Print of Dr. John Clarke, from Judge Minot.

Plan of the River Magaguadavic, from Judge Sullivan.

Portrait of Dr. Belknap, from several Members of the Society.

For the Chimney: —

A Grate, from Rev. James Freeman.

ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL, 1799.

At a meeting of the Massachusetts Historical Society, April 30, 1799, — the members present were, J. Davis, Dexter, Eliot, J. Freeman, Gannett, Harris, Kirkland, Minot, Morse, Spooner, Thacher, Turell, and Winthrop.

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* See a communication on this picture, by the late Dr. Appleton, in the Proceedings for September, 1867, p. 41. — EDS.

† In a letter from Sir John Wentworth to Dr. Belknap, dated "Halifax, N.S., March 23, 1798," he asks the Society's acceptance of the picture of his late grandfather, which his correspondent had mentioned. "I am much flattered," he says, "by its intended situation among the good men of my native country, to which I shall never cease to bear an honest affection." — EDS.

The members proceeded to the annual election of officers: —

JAMES SULLIVAN	was chosen	PRESIDENT.
WILLIAM TUDOR	„	TREASURER.
JOHN ELIOT	„	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.
JAMES FREEMAN	„	RECORDING SECRETARY.
JOHN T. KIRKLAND	„	LIBRARIAN.
SAMUEL TURELL	„	CABINET-KEEPER.
JAMES WINTHROP, PETER THACHER, REDFORD WEBSTER, JOHN DAVIS, JOSIAH QUINCY	were chosen .	STANDING COMMITTEE.

Voted, That the Standing Committee be a committee to audit the Treasurer's accounts.

Rev. JONATHAN HOMER was chosen a Resident Member, and His Excellency, JONATHAN TRUMBULL, a Corresponding Member.

Voted, That Dr. Morse and Mr. J. Davis be allowed to take from the files of the Society a map of a tract of unincorporated land in the county of Berkshire, presented by Mr. Williams, of Deerfield, they returning it when called for.

Voted, That Judge Winthrop, Dr. Thacher, and Mr. J. Davis be a committee to examine Dr. Morse's account respecting the map of the State, with the vouchers, and to report at the next meeting what may be proper for the Society to do.

Voted, That the Librarian purchase a book, to be left in the Society's room, and that the members be enjoined to give in it a receipt for the books which they shall take out of the Library.*

Voted, That the Corresponding Secretary transmit a copy of the Collections to the Agricultural Society of New York.

The Committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's accounts reported that they had attended that service,

* The small quarto volume, in parchment covers, purchased for the purpose indicated in this vote, is in the Cabinet of the Society, and contains many autograph signatures of the early members. — EDS.

and that they had found them rightly kept, vouched, and cast; and that there is in the hands of the Treasurer a balance of one hundred dollars and eighty-two cents.

Nominations: Dr. De Witt, of Albany, a Corresponding Member, by Dr. Eliot; Dr. Caspar Wistar, of Philadelphia, a Corresponding Member, by Dr. Spooner; and Rev. Samuel Miller, of New York, a Corresponding Member, by Dr. Morse.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

At a meeting of the Massachusetts Historical Society, July 18, 1799, — the members present were, Bartlett, Bentley, A. Bradford, J. Davis, Eliot, J. Freeman, Holmes, Morse, Prince, Quincy, Rand, Thacher, Turell, and Winthrop.

Voted, That an application be made to the Health Committee of Boston by Mr. Turell, who is chosen a committee for that purpose, that they would supply the documents which may fall into their hands respecting the origin and progress of the yellow fever, or any disease prevalent in the town during the last and present seasons.

Voted, That the Librarian and Cabinet-Keeper be a committee to procure a person to inspect the roof of the Society's room, and to stop the leak.

Dr. DE WITT, of Albany, Dr. CASPAR WISTAR, of Philadelphia, and Rev. SAMUEL MILLER, of New York, were chosen Corresponding Members.

Nomination: Rev. John Allyn, of Duxbury, a Resident Member, by Mr. Alden Bradford.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

At a meeting of the Massachusetts Historical Society, Oct. 29, 1799, — the members present were, G. Bradford, Coffin, J. Davis, Eliot, J. Freeman, Gannett, Harris, Holmes, Homer, Kirkland, Mellen, Morse, Quincy, Thacher, Tudor, Turell, Webster, and Winthrop.

A letter from Governor Jay being read,

Voted, That it be committed to the Publishing Committee for 1799.*

Voted, That Mr. Gannett have liberty to take out of the Library Flint's manuscript.

Voted, That the choice of a committee for superintending the publications for the year 1800 be referred to the quarterly meeting in January.

Voted, That Messrs. Tudor, Quincy, J. Davis, and Kirkland be a committee to report rules respecting the taking of books out of the Library, and also the most effectual method of recovering the books which are lost.

The Committee chosen to examine Dr. Morse's account reported as follows: —

The Committee have taken into consideration the demand referred to them, made by Mr. Dennison, and exhibited by Dr. Morse, and find, on inquiry, that Dr. Morse has received from the subscription money forty-five dollars, part of which sum, amounting to forty-three dollars and twenty cents, was credited on the account; and, considering all the circumstances of the case, we are of the opinion that five dollars

* Published in Vol. VI. of the Collections, p. 146. — Eds.

more be paid by the Treasurer to Dr. Morse, to be in full of the demand made by him on behalf of Mr. Dennison.

Per order, JAMES WINTHROP.

Voted, That this report be accepted.

Rev. JOHN ALLYN, of Duxbury, was chosen a Resident Member.*

Nominations: Mr. Eliphalet Pearson, Professor in the University of Cambridge, a Resident Member, by Mr. Gannett; Mr. Thomas Pieronnet, a Corresponding Member, by Mr. Freeman; Rev. Arthur Homer, D.D., of the University of Cambridge, Great Britain, a Corresponding Member, by Mr. Kirkland.

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* In acknowledging his election, Mr. Allyn wrote the following letter to Dr. Eliot, the Corresponding Secretary: —

"DUXBORO', Dec. 24, 1799.

"DEAR SIR, — I this day received your letter of November the 15th. When I reflect on the literary eminence of those members which compose the Historical Society, and the laudable objects of their institution, it would be affectation to conceal that I am flattered by the attention announced in your letter.

"I have been a constant purchaser of the publications of the Society, and a gratified reader of the same, and cordially wish success to the institution.

"The term of membership which you mention, though somewhat staggering to a parish curate whose *wants* and means are not always exactly proportional to each other, will, however, be cheerfully complied with.

"But compliance with the pecuniary condition is all you must expect. I have no antiquities in possession. The bones of Miles Standish have washed into the sea. The first records of the town are not. The article of topography has been forestalled, &c., &c. The lot of my inheritance is *barren* in a twofold sense. When you declare, therefore, my acceptance of the honor done me by your Society, let it be with this expression, that I have nothing to *give*. I shall, however, (yet) rejoice in the lower blessedness of *receiving* much from their successful exertions.

"With assurance of esteem and friendship, I subscribe, your humble servant,

"JOHN ALLYN.

"Mr. ELIOT, Corresponding Secretary of the
Massachusetts Historical Society." EDS.